5

10

ABSTRACT

A computer-assisted system and method that guides health-care providers through a diagnostic decision-making process, including giving the providers guidance as to a treatment program which conforms to medically-accepted practice and health industry insurance practices. The preferred embodiment guides the health care provider in entering protocol, diagnostic, and treatment choices in a natural manner that corresponds to a mental diagnostic and treatment process, and also checks diagnoses and treatments against appropriateness rules according to protocol choices and test results entered for each patient. The data entered is processed to process and audit clinical procedures and costs.